

Serial No. 10/809,301  
Art Unit 2837

### REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were presented for examination and remain pending upon entry of the instant amendment, which is respectfully requested. Claims 4 and 8 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,932,935 to Clifton et al. (Clifton).

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

For purposes of clarity, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a "a normal field excitation supply unit" and "a standby field excitation supply unit" (emphasis added).

In contrast, Clifton discloses an uninterruptable power supply system 970. System 970 receives primary power at IN (typically from a power company). System 970 directly or indirectly monitors for disruptions of the primary power. If short-term emergency power is required, the kinetic energy stored in flywheel storage unit 972 is used. If long-term emergency power is required, transfer switch 986 transfers the supply lines to standby power source 988, such as a standby diesel generator.

Thus, Clifton discloses a primary power source (i.e., power from a power company) and a standby power source (i.e., power from a standby diesel generator). However, Clifton simply does not disclose or suggest the "normal" and "standby" field excitation supply units of clarified claim 1.

Further, the Office Action asserts that Clifton's transfer switch 986 reads on the "control unit" of claim 1. However, transfer switch 986 merely transfers between power sources, which does not disclose or suggest transferring between normal and standby field excitation supply units as claimed.

Serial No. 10/809,301  
Art Unit 2837

Accordingly, independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Claims 2-4 are also believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the reason that they depend from claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 1-4 are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 5, similar to claim 1 above, has been clarified to recite "a normal field excitation supply unit" and "a standby field excitation supply unit".

Again, Clifton discloses a primary power source (i.e., power from a power company) and a standby power source (i.e., power from a standby diesel generator). However, Clifton simply does not disclose or suggest the "normal" and "standby" field excitation supply units of clarified claim 5.

Accordingly, independent claim 5 is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 5 are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 6 is directed to a method that has been clarified to recited the steps of "normally connecting said normal field excitation supply unit in circuit with a field winding system of said synchronous motor", "detecting a failure of said normal field excitation supply unit", and "automatically changing over said field winding system from said field normal excitation supply unit to a standby field excitation supply unit".

In contrast, Clifton merely automatically transfers between alternate power sources. However, Clifton simply does not disclose or suggest the "normal" and "standby" field excitation supply units of clarified claim 6.

Accordingly, Independent claim 6, as well as claims 7 and 8 that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 6-8 are respectfully requested.

Serial No. 10/809,301  
Art Unit 2837

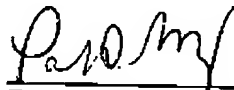
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Such action is solicited.

In the alternative, it is believed that the instant amendment places the present application in better condition for appeal. Further, it is believed that the clarifying amendments do not present issues requiring further search and consideration. Accordingly, entry and consideration of the instant amendment are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

July 21, 2006



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